

U. S. OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHINA'S TRADE

J. Selwin Tait Reports to New York Financiers on Conditions There.

LACK OF RAILROADS IS GREATEST HANDICAP

Thinks Change From Republic to Monarchy Assures the Preservation of Order in Celestial Empire.

J. Selwin Tait of 216 O street northwest, sent to China by financial interests in New York to observe and report on conditions of international investment, brings back the impression that America does not occupy as commanding a position in the Celestial empire as some other countries do. He also is of opinion that the United States, in the international plan to improve the transportation facilities of China, should bear its part and not take an independent initiative.

Mr. Tait, who is an international banker of long experience, has just returned from his journey in the Orient. The change in the government of China from a republic to a monarchy, Mr. Tait considers distinctly for the better.

Succession Is Assured.

"In the case of a hereditary monarchy the succession is assured beyond dispute," he commented, "whereas had Yuan Shih Kai died while president an interregnum would have followed. There would have been a considerable period of confusion until the matter was settled. This state of affairs would have been injurious to business and might have resulted in considerable bloodshed."

Mr. Tait was asked if he thought there would be much actual resistance to the change. "I do not think so," was his reply. "Of course, it is inevitable that in the case of so large a country, with such a varied population, no change conceivable would meet the views of all. It is to be expected, therefore, that there will be opposition here and there, but I do not think it will be of any importance."

In reply to a question about Yuan Shih Kai, Mr. Tait said: "He justifies his reputation as a strong man. His influence in China is very great, and no one denies that he is the best man that China could have for a ruler. With the promised constitution, China should do well under the monarchy."

"How about Japan?" Mr. Tait was asked. "The Japanese are a wonderful people, and in their modern organization, in whatever form you take it, they excel even the Germans in painstaking thoroughness and efficiency," he replied.

Expects No More Annexation.

"I do not think that Japan desires any more Chinese territory. The only part of unpopulated China available to them, Manchuria, is too cold for their taste. They prefer warmer countries like Brazil, where they are establishing a permanent colony. There is no doubt that Japan is desirous of securing as much of the trade of China as possible, but I believe she aims to do this by pacific means."

"Japan does not fear the armies of China, but it is probable that she knows what other nations discovered before her—that it is dangerous to interfere with China beyond a certain point, even with the object of strengthening a weak neighbor."

"China's armies have been conquered, but her people never. To attempt the conquest of China by force of arms is comparable to a man fighting an enormous feather bed. At first all goes well; every thrust goes home to the hilt; there is no resistance, and just when conquest is his, he is smothered. Tatar, Mongol, Manchu—all of them in turn conquered China, and each in turn was absorbed and ceased to exist."

"There is an easier way for Japan to secure her portion of the trade of China. By fighting she would antagonize the people and arouse influences which are infinitely more harmful than China's armies. I refer to the boycott. Japan today has her trade representatives throughout China. In that peaceable way she is securing a good hold on the commerce of the country, and, being on the spot and possessed of a first-class equipment, she will undoubtedly get a full share of the prosperity brought to China by the efforts of other countries."

Opportunities in China.

"What are the opportunities in China today?" Mr. Tait was asked. "To the large capitalist operating with care and judgment and working with the support of his own government, China will prove a veritable gold mine for himself and still more for his successors," was the reply. "It is this quality of future promise that makes China of value to the nation which works for posterity, as well as for its own day and generation. No live, up-to-date nation, possessing the necessary equipment of wealth and aptitude for the work, can afford to ignore China if its rulers wish to escape the condemnation of those who come after them."

China has a population of upward of 400,000,000. Her people are skilled artisans, unequalled agriculturists, and they form, in gross, the most valuable single asset possessed by any country in the world today. Her vast area, which is one-sixth larger than that of the United States, with Alaska, includes great plains of wonderful fertility, well capable of sustaining her enormous population. In addition, she has almost unlimited mineral wealth, water power, and every other element of success, except transportation. China's one tremendous defect is her isolation. She has practically no highways, and with more than one-fourth of the population of the globe she has only 5,000 miles of railway, which is one-fourth of that possessed by the United States, which has less than one-fourth of China's population and a smaller area. The carrying out of the agreements of certain European powers to build trunk lines of railways, opening up the most populous regions of China to trade, has been suspended by reason of the European war. This is a great misfortune to China.

China's Need of Railways.

"In my judgment, the best policy to be pursued today with reference to China would be that the different powers interested in the building of these Chinese railways, including the United States, should get together and should formulate some plan for the carrying out without delay of the program originally intended. If the United States were to assist financially in this business I feel sure terms could be made which would be to the advantage of this country, not only financially, but commercially. China today undoubtedly offers the greatest opportunity for development of any country in the world."

"In the opening up of China by railways the commercial advantages arising immediately therefrom would benefit enormously every country concerned, and the mutualities of interest thereby created would insure co-operation and the avoidance of all friction. It will go much further than this—there is not a handicapped from which China suffers today which a sufficient railroad service would remove. With prompt communication the unspeakable confusion of her currency would come up for prompt adjustment and would be settled to the enormous gain of the country at large. And so it would be with all her other handicaps."

GREAT NAVAL HARBOR STRONGLY DEFENDED

National Geographic Society Describes Portsmouth, England's Chief Arsenal and Port.

"Men-of-war, large and small; indefinitely colored transports, laden with troops, and a never-ending line of war-requisitioned freighters day by day slip out of Portsmouth, the first naval harbor of the world's greatest naval power, bearing their reinforcements to all of the troubled zones of Europe, Asia and Africa," begins a "primer on war geography" issued by the National Geographic Society. "The burdens and responsibilities of this English port have grown enormously since the outbreak of the war, for it, like German Kiel, symbolizes the mighty, vital naval effort of a great group of powers in the greatest war of history."

"Very little has been written about Portsmouth, the war port, for the labor and planning that have taken place there have been much too important, much too intimately bound up with the hopes and the aims of the entire allies, to be trumpeted abroad. A veil of military exclusiveness has been drawn around the enterprise and the significance of its achievements. One remembers, however, that Portsmouth is known what other nations discovered before her—that it is dangerous to interfere with China beyond a certain point, even with the object of strengthening a weak neighbor."

"China's armies have been conquered, but her people never. To attempt the conquest of China by force of arms is comparable to a man fighting an enormous feather bed. At first all goes well; every thrust goes home to the hilt; there is no resistance, and just when conquest is his, he is smothered. Tatar, Mongol, Manchu—all of them in turn conquered China, and each in turn was absorbed and ceased to exist."

"There is an easier way for Japan to secure her portion of the trade of China. By fighting she would antagonize the people and arouse influences which are infinitely more harmful than China's armies. I refer to the boycott. Japan today has her trade representatives throughout China. In that peaceable way she is securing a good hold on the commerce of the country, and, being on the spot and possessed of a first-class equipment, she will undoubtedly get a full share of the prosperity brought to China by the efforts of other countries."

Opportunities in China.

"What are the opportunities in China today?" Mr. Tait was asked. "To the large capitalist operating with care and judgment and working with the support of his own government, China will prove a veritable gold mine for himself and still more for his successors," was the reply. "It is this quality of future promise that makes China of value to the nation which works for posterity, as well as for its own day and generation. No live, up-to-date nation, possessing the necessary equipment of wealth and aptitude for the work, can afford to ignore China if its rulers wish to escape the condemnation of those who come after them."

Influenced to his foundation solely by reasons of strategy. The fostering care of King Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth first brought the port into importance, and its importance as a naval harbor has grown steadily ever since, keeping pace with the growth of the empire."

MRS. IDA VON CLAUSSEN WEDS.

Eludes Brother, Who Tries to Cause Her Arrest on Asylum Parole.

NEW YORK, December 29.—Mrs. Ida von Clausen, who last Friday was released on parole from the Middletown State Hospital for the Insane, has been married to Francis Albert Dona of Philadelphia. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. F. Price of the Washington Heights Methodist Episcopal Church.

Since her release from the Middletown asylum Mrs. von Clausen had been living with her brother, Matthew P. Clausen. Her marriage was a surprise to him, and Mr. Clausen at once communicated with the district attorney in a vain effort to have Mrs. von Clausen arrested for violating her parole.

Mrs. von Clausen first came into prominence some years ago by threatening to bring suit against the then President Roosevelt for an alleged interference with some of her social ambitions abroad. About a year ago she was committed to Matteawan for writing threatening letters after a period she spent under observation in Bellevue Hospital. She was adjudged competent by a sheriff's jury, but later recommitted to the asylum. She was transferred several months ago to the institution at Middletown.

Revenues Increase \$101,528,294.

CHICAGO, December 29.—A close estimate made public by the bureau of railway news and statistics shows that in the year now closing American railway revenues increased \$101,528,294 and expenses decreased \$69,347,883, leaving a net income increase, after deducting taxes, over 1914, of \$165,555,485.

RECORD CHRISTMAS MAIL.

From 15 to 40 Per Cent Heavier Than Ever Before.

Christmas mail this year was from 15 to 40 per cent heavier than ever before. A Post Office Department statement said reports from throughout the country showed the increase was general, and that the volume was handled everywhere promptly.

A middle west postmaster wired that parcel post shipments were three times as heavy as last year. Parcel post packages handled through the Chicago post office would have filled seventy trains of ten cars each, the postmaster said. Most packages were delivered from offices generally before noon Christmas day.

High School Athlete Back From War.

BOSTON, December 29.—Elmer R. Getchell, a Medford High School athlete, who disappeared just before he

was to graduate last June, has returned to his home, a veteran of the European war. He said he had spent three months in the trenches at Arras as a member of the 8th Irish (King's Liverpool) Regiment, and he wore a special decoration awarded the few survivors of that regiment. Getchell is nineteen years of age. He was released from service through the intervention of Secretary of State Lansing.

Will Instruct D. C. Artillery.

Capt. Albert C. Thompson, Jr., of the 103d Company, Coast Artillery Corps, stationed at Fort Howard, Md., has been relieved of that duty and detailed as inspector-instructor of the coast artillery militia of the District of Columbia. He will take station in this city January 1 and report his arrival to the commanding general, District of Columbia militia. Capt. Marlborough Churchill of the field artillery, formerly inspector general of the District militia and other organizations, has been ordered to France to serve as an observer with the French army.

GUARDING U. S. PASSPORTS.

State Department Takes Steps to Prevent Their Misuse.

Efforts to prevent misuse of United States passports may result in the establishment at most of the country's principal ports of State Department inspection bureaus similar to the one to be opened in New York next Monday. Walter W. Le Mat, assistant chief of the bureau of citizenship, will have charge of the new York bureau, which will examine the passports of all Americans sailing from that port on transatlantic steamers.

Department, will have charge of installing the machinery through which the federal agents will operate to prevent the misuse of American passports. He was in New York today to begin that work, having been selected by the Secretary of State because of his experience. Establishment of similar bureaus in other of the principal ports undoubtedly will be begun by Mr. Davis and later taken over by officials of the bureau of citizenship, who will be detailed as administrative officers of the various proposed agencies.

Sues Steamer W. L. Davis Owners.

Edward Sullivan, a minor, by next friend, Dennis Sullivan, has filed suit against the People's line, which operates the steamboat W. L. Davis, to recover \$5,000 damages. He says he was assaulted September 5 last when the boat was near Alexandria, and he was confined for an hour in a stateroom against his will. Attorneys D. W. Baker and H. A. Grant appear for the plaintiff.



The New Edison Diamond Disc Phonograph

Is the beginning of a new era in music. It brings the music of the greatest masters, of the most renowned artists, to your door in all their original beauty. Come in and let us play your favorite selections for you.

No Money to Pay Until February 1st
Just Pay for the Records You Select

Hecht & Co.

Seventh Street Near F

Store Hours: Open at 8:30; Close at 5:30

Garment Sale Extraordinary!

Year-End Clearance of Women's Coats and Suits



Luxurious Plush Coats

\$26.75 to \$49.50

Coats reproduced from styles created abroad and in the cleverest American adaptations. Fashioned from the best grade of lustrous deep pile plush—a fabric that is getting very scarce. One style has a high chin collar of beaver plush, a deep band of beaver plush around bottom and cuffs of same—another model has a chin collar of fur and plush combined and is cut full and gracefully flaring. Still others with genuine fur collars and cuffs; superbly lined and finished.



Women's \$24.50 Winter Coats . . . \$16.95

Magnificent models of wool plush, with high chin collar. Full flaring, fashionable styles for general utility and afternoon wear. Smart-looking broad belts and guaranteed linings. Shades of green, brown and black.



Women's \$24.50 and \$29.50 Fur Trimmed Suits of BROADCLOTH . . . \$18.95

Inspired by much higher priced models, they have lost nothing of the charm and exclusiveness of the originals. Long flare coat models of broadcloth, English wide-cuffs and poplins. Collars and cuffs of natural opossum, dyed opossum and Manchurian wolf. Beautifully lined with silk peau de cygne.

NEW! Skating Suits \$24.50

For Women and Misses

Copied from a \$75.00 model featured by one of New York's leading establishments. The woman who likes to be first to wear the new things is particularly invited to participate in this sale. Alluringly styled, with long flare coats and full wide-medium length skirts. The materials are novelty blue, black and gray chevrons and cut velvet. Chin collar, three inches high, of beaver plush, with a band of the same on bottom of coat and skirt. Peau de cygne lining. Kid bridge belt encircles the waist. Jumbo buttons of beaver plush to match the trimming are used in a most attractive manner.

Stunning \$69.50 American Red Fox Fur Sets Reduced to \$39.50

It's safe to say you can't find their equal for the price. Luxurious muff and full, round animal scarf. Both muff and scarf are trimmed with head, feet and brush.

French Seal Coats, \$57.50

Magnificent flare styles, with broad shawl collar and cuffs. Superbly lined with fancy silk linings. They have all the beauty and luxurious appearance of the genuine seal—and will wear splendidly. An exceptional bargain.

500 Pairs of Misses' and Children's Shoes Reduced!

Not All Sizes, But All Can Be Fitted

Including Many Pairs of "Holeproof" Shoes

Misses' \$2.50 High Cut Shoes, \$1.69

Goodyear welt, calf top and cloth styles in all the up-to-date lasts. Not all sizes in every style, but all can be fitted. Patent kid, red kid and dull leather. Sizes 1 1/2 to 2.

Children's \$2 High and Low Cut Shoes, \$1.49

Of patent leather, tan and red kid and dull leather, button styles, in high and low cut. Newest form-fitting lasts. Sizes 8 1/2 to 11.

Children's \$1.50 Shoes, 89c

Tan, Patent Leather, Red Kid, Black Kid and Bright Kid Button Shoes, in all the smartest lasts. Sizes 4 to 8.

January Sale of Boys' Wash SUITS

\$1, \$1.50 and \$2 Values, 79c

A lot of 865 of Spic-and-span New Wash Garments have come into our possession on very favorable terms in the cleverest of the new advance spring styles.

No mused or left-overs, mind you, but all brand-new, fresh, crisp styles in Middy, Oliver Twist, Sailor Blouse and Russian Blouse effects. Of fast-color, serviceable chambrays, percale, galatea and gingham. Colors are blue, tan and white in solid colors and combinations. Sizes 2 1/2 to 8 years.

BOYS' \$5.00 and \$6.00 SUITS . . . \$3.95

Smart Norfolk models, with pleated and patch pocket front, stitched on, and 3-piece belts. MANY WITH TWO PAIRS OF PANTS. Neat brown, gray and blue mixtures, in serviceable chevrons and cassimeres. Sizes 6 to 17 years.



This Is the Most Important Sale

of Clothing in Washington

Because of the Famous Makes Involved.

Society Brand and Aristocrat-ic Clothes At Big Reductions

Nowhere else in Washington can you obtain Society Brand and Aristocrat-ic Clothes, for we are sole distributors in this city—nowhere else can you obtain clothes of equal merit at any price—and when you buy these famous clothes at these greatly reduced prices you are making the best clothing investment possible to make.

Now this is not a sale of odds and ends of what's left of the season's stock—but two tremendous purchases—just made—of Society Brand and Aristocrat-ic Suits and Overcoats that exemplify the last-minute style ideas—many of them being cut over the coming season's models—that is, three to six months in advance of the present season's styles.

Hundreds of these elegant garments—the world's finest ready-to-wear—in two big sale lots:

\$20 and \$22 Society Brand and Aristocrat-ic Suits and Aristocrat-ic Overcoats

\$14.50

\$25 and \$30 Society Brand and Aristocrat-ic Suits and Overcoats

\$19.50

Evening Dress

Particular attention is directed to our incomparable showing of evening clothes. Full Dress Suits in Society Brand and Aristocrat-ic Brand at \$30 to \$45 that could not possibly be equaled in style by any local custom tailor. Full Dress Waists, Silk Hats, Evening Footwear and other Full Dress accessories that are authentic.

The Aristocrat-ic Clothes Shop
Home of Society Brand Clothes
HECHT & CO.—First Floor

The Mode Says—

The Important and Only Sale

There's a purpose behind this one Mid-winter Sale of Mode Suits and Overcoats—CLEARANCE. When the time comes to hold it—there is no compromising. We include every Suit and every Overcoat—our own make, and Aquascutum's of London. And we make the reductions so deep that you are at once impressed with the advantage that is offered.

\$17.50, \$20.00 and \$22.50 Suits and Overcoats	Now \$14.75
\$25.00, \$27.50 and \$28.00 Suits and Overcoats	Now \$18.75
\$30.00 and \$32.50 Suits and Overcoats	Now \$23.75
\$35.00, \$38.00 and \$40.00 Suits and Overcoats	Now \$29.75
\$45.00 and \$50.00 Overcoats only	Now \$33.75

Eleventh & I Streets

Mark Cross Gloves